THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840].

"*If ye love me, keep my commandments. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me; and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.*"—JOHN 14: 15, 21.

No. 19, Vol. LXV. Thursday, May 7, 1903. Price One Penny.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

EDUCATION, CLEANLINESS OF THE BODY AND THE SPIRIT, AND PROGRESS OF THE WORK AMONG THE SUBJECTS.

(Continued from page 278).

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sunday, 2 p.m. The choir sang the anthem, "In Our Redeemer's Name." The opening prayer was offered by Elder John Nicholson. The choir sang the anthem, "God of Israel, hear our prayers."

ELDER RULON S. WELLS,

of the first seven presidents of Seventies, addressed the conference. He desired the prayers of the Saints that the Lord might bless him in his effort to address the congregation. We believe the Bible, so far as correctly translated, to be the word of God; also that the Book of Mormon is the word of the Lord. The people of the world find fault with the qualification in relation to the Bible. In reference to it, we hold that holy men of old spoke as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost, and we accept those words as the mind of God. We also accept of the living oracles, which we have with us. We have heard their instructions since the opening of this conference and know that they are the result of divine inspiration. The head of the Church has given us counsel that should be obeyed. In this way we are guided in the ways of the Lord. The magnificent spectacle we now behold shows that the Saints are anxious to hear the word of God and act upon it. None should incur indebtedness, which checks spiritual and temporal progress. Letters

are sent to Seventies that it might be ascertained if their circumstances are such as to admit of their going on missions to preach the Gospel. Some of them have replied by describing their affairs, showing that they were financially embarrassed, but notwithstanding this, they were perfectly willing to go into the missionary field if wanted. Such cases show that indebtedness is frequently a hindrance to spiritual growth. The speaker bore witness to the truth of the Gospel as revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

ELDER HYRUM GOFF,

president of the Jordan stake, was the next speaker. This stake, he said, had been organized only a little more than three years. It covers an area of about four hundred and fifty square miles, having thirteen wards. All the organizations in the stake are presided over by men and women who pay their tithing and keep the Word of Wisdom. Elder Goff said that he was assisted by men of God; they were anxious to do all the good in their power. There are many people in the stake who are too aged to attend the meetings, hence the stake officers have provided that meetings may be held in private houses. He testified that the Gospel is true.

ELDER COLLINS R. HAKES,

president of the Maricopa stake, next addressed the conference. He had been in this stake for twenty-two years. It is situated in Arizona, and is among the smallest in the Church. The people are, on the whole a faithful band of Saints, and endeavor to live peacefully with their neighbors. The part of country in which this stake is situated is very fertile, and the prospects are very favorable. Wheat is planted in November and December and reaped in May, after which corn may be planted and will yield an abundant crop. These possibilities, however, are realized only when water is plentiful. He concluded by asking God's blessings on the people.

Four members of the choir sang, "Lead kindly light."

ELDER DANIEL HEINER,

president of the Morgan stake, was the next speaker. He was pleased to report this district. It is small but composed of a people who are trying to serve the Lord. The presidency are united. The financial condition is good, and the Saints appreciate their homes. All the organizations are complete and doing a good work among the young people. He bore his testimony to the truth of the Gospel.

ELDER JONATHAN S. PAGE, JR.,

president of the Nebo stake, was called upon to report his district. The priesthood in his stake were engaged in preaching the Gospel, and endeavoring to have the people appreciate the truths revealed to the Prophet Joseph. The young men are carefully looked after, so that they could not in after years have it to say that they had been neglected. The majority of the people are trying to do their duty in the Church. The officers of the auxiliary organizations are seeking to establish faith and humility. The religion class has not been so successful as it might have been, owing to lack of attention; but the priesthood was beginning to learn its mission.

ELDER JOSEPH M. TANNER,

superintendent of Church schools, was next called upon. There are in all twenty academies and colleges, in which there were studying more than five

thousand young men and women. He had been pleased to listen to the remarks of President Smith regarding education. Manual training is being introduced into the schools. Here and elsewhere, our boys are permitted during the summer months, to remain idle, whereas, if there were industrial schools, this time might be spent in learning trades. Some time ago President Smith appointed a committee to see what could be done to establish an industrial school. This committee has found that more than eight millions are paid to tradesmen. The young men should be trained to do skilled labor. The parents are too eager to have their sons become book-keepers. Years hence there will be a demand for skilled labor, that cannot be supplied.

He spoke of the craze for what is termed culture, and related an anecdote illustrative of the emptiness of this term as commonly used. What we want is education that will train the hand as well as the brain. In the east everywhere technical schools are founded. He expected, he said, to see the time when our rich men here will found schools where our boys and girls can learn trades. He referred to his recent trip to some of the eastern states and Canada, where he examined the schools of industry. It is only a question of time until these schools will be established as part of our Church school education. Many young men go into stores and the schoolroom when they have great inventive talent. The men and women of Utah must be taught how to improve their opportunities in the line of industry.

He spoke of the bulletins of the Agricultural College, by Dr. John Widtsoe. He declared that these bulletins had contributed to the improvement of all classes of industrial labor, both here and elsewhere; for they were the highest authority in the land in the subjects on which they treat.

He was pleased to note the fact that President Smith and the general board of education were taking so active an interest in the education of our youth.

ELDER REED SMOOT,

of the council of the Twelve, next addressed the conference. He quoted the old saying that "cleanliness is next to godliness." He might speak of cleanliness of the mind, of the body, of the home and of the town. None could compute the importance of this subject. He hoped that the presidents of stakes and the Bishops of the wards would go from this conference and see what could be done to keep this subject before the minds of the people. He related an incident concerning President Brigham Young, who would not stop to preach in a certain settlement because of the unclean appearance of the town.

One of the greatest sins and evils is that there are so many wilfully childless wives; and another is that there are so many lazy men who will not provide for their wives. We wonder sometimes why there are so many scoundrels in the world who prey upon the race. One of the causes of this is that so many children are brought into the world with unwilling fathers and mothers. Let the children come into this world surrounded with love. This is the greatest law given to us. We should show to the world that we love our children. He was thankful that this nation had as a president a man who believed in a large family, who believed in bringing up a family of children whom he can train up as Americans. If men and women do not want children they should not marry. He had enjoyed the conference. He had been pleased

that the subject of industrial schools had been spoken so much of. He had seen a necessity for these schools. We need men that are skilful in their lines. If, he remarked, any one should advertise for laborers at the small figure of $1.50 a day, plenty would apply; but if only men capable of doing skilled work at $3. a day should be advertised for, very few would apply. This condition ought not to be. He believed that we were on the verge of a steady growth.

Mrs. Lizzie Thomas Edwards and the choir sang the anthem, "When Thou comest to the judgment." Benediction by Elder Marriner W. Merrill.

Overflow Meeting.

Held in the Assembly Hall, at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 5, 1903. Elders Abraham O. Woodruff and Rudger Clawson of the Twelve presided.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn, "An angel from on high." Prayer was offered by Elder Rudger Clawson. The choir sang, "A holy angel from on high."

Elder Ben E. Rich, president of the Middle States mission, was the first speaker. He referred to the longing to gather to Zion that takes possession of those who accept the Gospel in the world, although this principle is no longer preached by the missionaries. Elder Rich said that all the men of the Church hold, or have the privilege of holding, a portion of the priesthood of God, and referred to the great responsibilities resting upon us. The Latter-day Saints claim more, said he, than do any other people on the face of the earth; but they must remember that where much is given much is required.

Elder Hugh S. Gowans, president of the Tooele stake, said the Tooele stake was organized in 1877, but that the population had not increased much owing to the scarcity of water and the lack of resources. The population at present is but three thousand souls. The increase during the past twenty years was but one hundred and fifty-nine. The young people particularly were continually moving to Canada and other places in search of land and homes. However, the stake was in a splendid condition spiritually. The tithing had doubled since 1882, though the population was about the same.

Elder Lewis W. Shurtliff, president of the Weber stake, reported that there were thirteen thousand souls in the Weber stake of Zion; that the stake officers were laboring in harmony, and that good conditions, temporally and spiritually, prevailed. Elder Shurtliff also bore his testimony.

Elder David John, president of the Utah stake of Zion, represented that stake as being in a similar condition to the Weber stake. Nearly all the people were paying an honest tithing.

Elder Frank J. Bramwell of the Union stake of Zion (located in Oregon), said the Union stake had grown rapidly since its organization, about nineteen months ago. During 1902 the population had increased 1,030, which exceeded the increase of any other stake of Zion.

Elder Don C. Driggs, president of the Teton stake, reported favorable conditions in that stake.

Sisters Maggie Hull and Maria B. Winder favored the congregation with a duet.

President John M. Baxter of the Woodruff stake, President Ephraim H.

Nye of the Southern States mission, and President Joseph E. Robinson of the Californian mission, gave encouraging and interesting reports.

The choir sang the anthem, "O how amiable," and the benediction was pronounced by Elder Hyrum M. Smith.

[TO BE CONTINUED].

ROME UNDER LEO.

THE importance of the work of Leo XIII. to the Catholic church, is best understood when his policy is contrasted with that of his predecessor.

Pius lived mostly in the past. He failed to grasp the questions of his time. Instead of studying the problems of labor, of nationality, and scientific research, he buried himself in theological quibbles about the Virgin, infallibility and the temporal power of the popes. The result was that when he died the church was stripped of her temporal estates, and at feud with almost all Europe, and the outlook for his successor was so gloomy that doubts were openly expressed whether, in fact, he would have any successor at all.

The present pope has pursued an entirely different course. He has taken up the problems of the age and investigated them without fear. The unification of Christendom, the condition of labor, the ills of poverty, the evils of war, freedom of scientific inquiry—these and kindred topics have been in his encyclicals and otherwise, in the broad spirit of one who regards himself at the head of the human family. And the consequence is that papacy to-day stands higher than at any time since the Reformation.

Papacy has much ill to be responsible for. It cut a swath through the middle ages, more sanguinary, more marked with the curse of fire and sword, than that of the hordes of Attila, or the followers of the Arabian prophet. In its wake followed superstition, blasphemy, rebellion against the Almighty. But papacy is no longer what it was at that time. The world has changed, and the Catholic church has changed too. It will never become just what it was at the time when the pope divided the American continents between Spain and Portugal, giving to each one half, as if it had been an orange to give to two good children.

The best proof of the changed conditions in Rome is the fact that that church now has commenced to recommend the reading of the Scriptures. The Vatican press, we are told, has now in preparation a new Italian translation of the four Gospels and of the Acts, which it is expected will be sold at the small price of one franc. A committee has been appointed to aid in the distribution of this popular edition. And the official organ of the Vatican is quoted as follows on the importance of Bible reading:

"The reading of the Holy Scriptures is the best means for the support of the true and genuine apostolic office, and is entirely adapted to awaken in the people a truly Christian knowledge and conscience, which can then be perverted by nobody. What an inestimable blessing it would be if every Christian family would be assembled daily and read a chapter from the Gospels! In this way the divine language of the book, together with its sublime simplicity, would become common property; the image of Jesus Christ would become clearer and more deeply impressed on the hearts of the people; a thorough religious training would be imparted on all sides, and in this way the most dangerous

results of ignorance and indifference would be removed. If it would only be made possible to have this constant and steady reading of the Scriptures introduced into many families, as is the case in a number of countries in northern Europe, what an immense gain this would be for the church and the faithful!"

That is truly remarkable in a Roman paper. Bible reading was at one time not encouraged by the defenders of Rome. And so exceptional did it become, that a monk at the time of the Reformation is said to have told his audience that the reformers had invented a new language, the Greek, and written a Bible in it, in order to lead people astray. Such ignorance!

But this is all changed. To-day the Protestants think very little of the sacred Scriptures. Few read them as the word of God. Many criticize them, instead of studying them. The Catholics have taken up the Bible again. They intend to defend it. They recommend its reading. There is a complete change of position.—*Deseret News.*

THE NEWCASTLE CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual Newcastle conference was held in the Temperance Hall, Middlesbrough, Sunday, May 3, 1903, President John S. Baugh presiding. There were present of the ministry, President Francis M. Lyman of the European mission, and all the traveling Elders of the Newcastle conference. After the usual opening exercises the sacrament was administered by Elders Baker and Condie. President Baugh welcomed all present, and hoped that a spiritual feast would be enjoyed this day. The conference at present is in a very fair condition. The Saints generally are doing their duty. President Baugh presented the general and local authorities of the Church, the voting being unanimous. The statistical report for the past six months was then read.

Elder Davies said if we want to receive divine favor we must be obedient to righteous law. Elder Montgomery testified that in all ages those who serve the Lord may receive His blessings.

President Lyman felt impressed to speak more directly to the local priesthood and Saints. Live your religion in this country and God will bless you. Preach the Gospel to your kindred and friends by example. Stay here long enough to demonstrate to your former associates that the Gospel has made you better.

At the afternoon session Elder Stewart said we claim to be the chosen people of the Lord and as such enjoy the gifts and blessings of the faithful. Elder Wilkins said if men would only investigate the Gospel in the true spirit of prayer they would become convinced of its truthfulness. Elder Pickett desired when he stood before the judgment seat, that his garments would be clear of the blood of the people among whom he had been sent to labor in this life.

President Lyman read from Acts ii: 38, and hoped at all times to enjoy the Holy Ghost which Peter promised to active followers of the Savior. We are to be tried as to our texture and endurance, and as we rise above our debasing tendencies in this life our way will be clear to enjoy salvation in the hereafter. If we desire eternal life we must gain it through Christ. With

this idea in his mind Peter, in the chapter read, told the multitude in very plain words what they must do to be saved.

After the opening exercises in the evening Elder Astle dwelt upon man's responsibility and the resurrection. President Baugh spoke at some length on salvation for the dead.

President Lyman read from I. Peter iii: 18, and reviewed the tenets of our faith. Men must be properly called in order to minister legally in the ordinances of the Gospel. We must give heed to the first principles of the Gospel and then continue on if we desire to become joint heirs with our Elder Brother. The Lord deigned to appear to the Prophet Joseph Smith. What could be more appropriate than that God should reveal Himself after eighteen hundred years of silence.

During the services Miss Alice Brettle sang a solo entitled "The Heavenly Song," and Mr. William Morris sang "Hosanna in Excelsis." The Star quartette sang "School thy feelings," also "The sinner and the song."

A priesthood meeting was held on Monday morning at which President Lyman gave some very valuable instructions and the Elders were assigned to their respective fields of labor as follows: Middlesbrough—Leo Pickett, Charles G. D. Jarvis; South Shields—William A. Montgomery, Orange D. Baker; West Hartlepool—William T. Stewart, Albert Choules; Pelton—William Howells, William W. Hardy; Darlington—Alma H. Davis, Thomas A. Condie; Wallsend—William G. Lambert, George E. Wilkins. Elder James Astle having been released to return home was not assigned to any field of labor.

JAMES ASTLE, Clerk of Conference.

NEWS OF THE GREAT WEST.

(Condensed from our Utah Exchanges).

THE Carnegie library at Ogden was formally opened April 21st.

IT appears that the public schools of Salt Lake City were compelled to close May 1st on account of lack of funds.

DR. WASHINGTON F. ANDERSON, probably the oldest physician in Utah, died at his home in Salt Lake City, April 21st. He began his practice in the state in 1857, having accepted the Gospel in California, and was in attendance on President Brigham Young when he died. Dr. Anderson was eighty years old. He lived and died a genuine Latter-day Saint.

THROUGH Mayor Ezra Thompson, President Roosevelt has been invited to take part in a buffalo hunt on Antelope island in Great Salt Lake. There is a thriving herd of the animals there. The proposed hunt would take a day and it seems improbable that the President will delay his journey for it. It seems a shame to kill off these beautiful animals now nearly extinct. We hope the President will decline to shoot any of them.

SENATOR WILLIAM A. CLARK of Montana has bought all the lines and equipment of the Oregon Short Line Railroad company lying south of Salt Lake City. This property, when the actual transfer is completed about June 1st, will become a part of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake railroad. The span between Calientes, Nevada, and Ontario, California, will be completed in two years. Seventy-five pound rails will be laid in place of the lighter ones now used on the Oregon Short Line. The present distance from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles is 1,188 miles, but the new line will be only 771 miles.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1903.

EDITORIAL.

THE WORK OF PROSELYTING.

One of the speakers at the last general conference said that if the Latter-day Saints would cease to perform temple ordinances such as marriage for eternity, recall their missionaries and abolish other distinctive parts of the latter-day work, "Mormonism" would become popular. It is easy to understand that religious people, if they have not partaken of the spirit of the work, are vexed by great doctrines that are new to them. If they have believed firmly all their lives that death eternally separates husband and wife, parents and children, and if their own family ties have been made for this life alone, they are naturally irritated when others declare seriously that the true way is to have the union made binding, through the power of the priesthood, for time and eternity. If the fabric of their faith is woven about the false doctrine that hell swallows up all souls that die as unbelievers, then they are sure to be disturbed when the Saints teach that grace extends beyond the grave and even the dead have the Gospel preached unto them. If they have relied on the promise of Luther and other men that by faith alone they are to be saved, they feel the sands shifting from under their feet when the servants of the Lord explain that though we cannot pay for salvation by our works we absolutely must work and do works to bring ourselves into condition to be saved.

But the irritation and jealousy would be less if the Saints did not try to persuade others to believe as they believe. It is their movement to convert that causes the opposition to become bitter. The unrelenting determination to preach the Gospel to every creature and the success in gaining proselytes are what disturb the religious of all sects. The work began in a formal way a few months after the organization of the Church. Parley P. Pratt, Oliver Cowdery and other missionaries were sent, like Paul and Barnabas from Antioch, by the voice of the Lord and the laying on of the hands of His servants. Very soon others followed, and since that time the most active propaganda has been carried into effect.

The work of the Elders has been followed in some instances by very remarkable results, as when President Wilford Woodruff proclaimed the Gospel in Herefordshire. Led by the Lord to a place where a whole sect was praying for more light, and preaching under divine inspiration, he had remarkable success in converting souls. In eight months he baptized eighteen hundred

persons, about two hundred of whom were preachers of various denominations. But the warning has now become familiar, prejudice has become widespread, the Elders are gleaning old fields, as it were, and the harvest is not so great. Still steady, definite progress is made. The outlook for the Latter-day Saints s so promising, at any rate, that religious people are alarmed and send out unscrupulous men and women to spread falsehood regarding the Saints. We may feel encouraged.

The Elders are sometimes asked why they come to the enlightened peoples of Europe to preach, and are advised to go back to America and teach their doctrines there. We can say that every state in the Union is now embraced in one or other of the many missions established, and active work is being done in all parts. At home we are not idle either. Elders are appointed to spend part of their time in visiting the homes of non-Mormons and teaching them the Gospel, and they are meeting with some success. Visiting strangers are also taught the Truth by means of the Bureau of Information at Salt Lake City, and a surprising influence is being exerted by the tireless and intelligent workers. From a letter from Elder Thomas Hull we learn that between thirty thousand and forty thousand strangers from all parts of the world have, during the last year, signed the register kept for the purpose. Every one of these has had a Gospel conversation and received tracts; many also have bought books. These people have expressed themselves most kindly concerning the Saints, and have carried their good feeling back to their homes. The effect is that our missionaries are meeting many influential persons in the states who are friendly and interested.

The Lord is providing a way for all His children to learn the truth. Those who have felt within their hearts the heavenly fire are seeking to help others to obtain the same great gift. It could not be otherwise. If Saints cease to be active they lose both the right to that name and all the spiritual growth they may have attained. We exhort all who have received the testimony of the Gospel to be diligent in warning their neighbors and leading them to the light, joy will come to them in this life as a reward for their efforts, and in the life to come how great shall be their happiness, if they have labored well here and received souls for their hire!

NOTICE TO ELDERS.

THE following notice has been received from the management of the *Improvement Era* for publication. The missionaries are very grateful to the *Era* for the generous treatment they are receiving and they will seek to carry out the instructions carefully.

The object of the General Board in sending the *Era* to the missionaries was at least two-fold; first, that the Elders who are abroad preaching the Gospel, most of whom are members of the Mutual Improvement Associations, might have the Mutual Improvement Association magazine to read and to enable them to keep in touch with the work at home; next, that they might use it amongst their friends as an object lesson showing what was being done by our people at home. It was expected, and is yet the expectation of the General Board, that the Elders will use them in their mission fields, distributing them amongst the people as tracts in order that the Gospel testimony might be more widely disseminated, and in the hope that our little magazine would make friends for them amongst the people of the world with whom

they are laboring. It was not intended, nor expected, that the brethren would simply read them themselves and then carefully put them away to bring home, but that they would, as stated above, scatter them amongst the people.

SHALL THE ELDERS MARRY?

THE question has been asked as to whether Elders should perform marriage ceremonies in cases where Saints in this mission wish to enter matrimony. This can be answered simply by saying no. In the United States all ministers of religion have authority to perform this ceremony but in the European countries this privilege is more restricted, and marriages performed by Latter-day Saint Elders are not legal. After the ceremony has been performed by legal authority it is not necessary that the Elders marry the couple again. The Lord recognizes lawful wedlock until death parts those who have entered it. If Saints wish to be united in this holy bond for eternity they must enter a temple of the Lord and be sealed to one another. The Elders are not sent out to marry or to give in marriage, and they should leave such matters to the proper authorities.

DEDICATION OF CHRISTIANIA HOUSE.

THE new house of worship erected by the Church in Christiania, Norway, is nearing completion. The dedication, it is now arranged, will take place July 24th, on Utah Pioneer day. The great conference that will be held on that occasion will last four days, until July 27th. President Anthon L. Skanchy of the Scandinavian mission has extended a general invitation to the Elders of Europe to be present at that time. Naturally they must bear their own expenses. All the missionaries who wish to go may do so, as the conference of the priesthood will be an important one. Those who decide to attend should make it known to their mission presidents as soon as possible.

J. J. C.

THE funeral services over the remains of President Brigham Young, Junior, were held at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Wednesday, April 15th, 1903. The great attendance and long cortege told of the love in which the deceased leader was held by the people. The words of President Young's associates in the ministry were strong testimony to his devotion to the Lord and His work.

THE good report comes from President Robert Wills of the Irish conference that he and his companions have begun to hold open air meetings in Belfast. They find some who desire to contend, but following the rule observed by all the Elders they declare their message and refuse to be drawn into contention.

ARRIVALS.—Elder Malcolm McAllister of Salt Lake City, and the following named visitors arrived, Sunday, May 3rd, 1903, per s.s. *Mayflower*: George A. Smith, Mrs. Lucy E. Woodruff Smith, Miss Edith A. Smith, Miss Cecelia Sharp, Mrs. Annie D. Watson, Mrs. May W. Cannon and Miss Edna Harker.

APPOINTMENT.—Elder Malcolm McAllister, who arrived per s.s. *Mayflower*, May 3, 1903, is appointed to labor in the Grimsby conference.

RELEASE.—Elder James Astle of the Newcastle conference is honorably released to return home by s.s. *Commonwealth*, sailing May 21, 1903.

TRANSFERS.—Elder David H. Jordan is transferred from the Manchester to the London conference; Elder Joseph Newbold, Jr., of the London is transferred to the Nottingham conference.

DEPARTURES.—A company of emigrants and the following named missionaries in charge of Elder Ralph T. Merrill sailed for Boston by s.s. *New England*, April 30, 1903: Fredrick Zaugg, Harold A. Lafount, Edwin F. Tout and Franz A. Beck.

By oversight we failed to note the departure of the following named missionaries, who sailed with a company of emigrants in charge of Elder Andrew Jenson, March 19, 1903: L. Sumner Pond, Jr., Adolph Hohne, Ebenezer A. Child, William B. Stucki, Fredrick Newenschwander, Edward P. Moser, William De Leeuw, Milton H. Knudsen, Carl H. Carlson, Axel R. Larson, Erick Olson and Ernest F. Jorgensen.

The semi-annual Irish conference will be held in the Whitehall Buildings, Ann Street, Belfast, Sunday, May 17, 1903. Services commence at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. All are invited.

HE WILL SHOW YOU THINGS TO COME.

BY ELDER GEORGE A. HOLT OF THE SCOTTISH CONFERENCE.

"HEAR now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream" (Numbers xii: 6). These rebuking words came from the God of ancient Israel to Aaron and his sister when they murmured against His servant Moses. Regarding Moses the Lord said, "With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches." And not alone was the leader of Israel favored with the prophetic gift, but many of his faithful brethren with him. When Joshua, hearing of the extraordinary gift possessed by two of Israel's camp, complained to Moses, he received the mild rebuke, "Would God that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit upon them!"

In every dispensation the Lord has deemed it of the utmost importance to impart a knowledge of the future unto His children. This golden cord of revelation can be traced from the remote period of our first parents through the lives of the righteous Prophets to Noah, who received a knowledge of the future even to the saving of him and his house. From Noah to Abraham, who obtained the promise of God's blessing upon his seed, it continues, and through Israel's pleasant days in the promised land.

In order to distinguish between the God of Israel and false deities the Lord issued a challenge through the Prophet Isaiah to the idol worshipers: "Produce your cause, saith the Lord: bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob. Let them bring them forth, and show us what shall happen: let them show the former things, and what they be that we may consider them,

and know the latter end of them: or declare us things for to come. Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods (Isa. 41: 21). Thus we see that prophecy was the most efficacious method of distinguishing the source of authority that a person possessed. Nor was this changed when the meridian epoch was ushered in, for we hear the most important figure of that dispensation saying, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." The Apostles, being ordained and commissioned and inspired with the Comforter, which should show them things to come, began to preach the Gospel and predict important events that were to transpire. Paul tells us explicitly that these gifts, including prophecy and revelation, are indispensably necessary and should ever be as beacon lights to the children of God until "that which is perfect is come," "for now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face." "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye prophesy."

It would have been poor consolation for the Apostle Paul, when shipwrecked on his voyage to Rome, to have read the ancient history of Jonah's trouble and how he miraculously escaped the watery grave. But how much better was it when he was assured of his safety by an angel from God, and standing in the midst of the fear-stricken and unbelieving passengers, while the storm-tossed vessel was being crushed and parted asunder by the waves of the wild sea, he calmly imparted the comfort, "Be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you." Philip needed no better assurance of his duty than to have an angel of God instruct him to depart into Gaza. How unceasingly might he have pored over the ancient Scriptures to have received this knowledge!

Revelation is the very life of the religion of heaven, for what the spirit is to the body so is revelation to the Church, and without it we are as the blind groping in the impenetrable darkness, not knowing the will of the controlling power or the dangers that beset our pathway. Consider, if it is possible, an earthly kingdom existing separate and apart, and not knowing the will or hearing a word from the king for nearly two thousand years. If such a condition could exist for even a short time, the subjects would consider the king of no use and dispense with him. But with the great King, they consider Him as indispensably necessary, yet deny His children the right to know His will. Shorn of all its pristine beauty and primitive grandeur, deprived of all its glorious attributes and principles, gifts and blessings, well has Apostle Pratt enquired, "How can Christianity have been perpetuated, while its virtues, its distinguishing features, its legitimate powers, its very life and essence have ceased from among men? Or, of what possible use is it if it does exist? Is a compass of use when its needle has lost its magnetic attraction? Is water of use when it no longer seeks its level, or quenches thirst? Is fire of use when it loses its heat? Is a sundial of use on a dark and cloudy day, or a watch without a mainspring? Or, are the mere forms and ceremonies of any system of use when the divine or legitimate powers for which such forms are instituted are withdrawn?" Well does it make the modest Christian blush with shame while endeavoring to form a comparison of his man-made religion and the pure doctrines of the Gospel of Christ. In the midst of this confused con-

dition of the religious world, can we wonder that some have awaited with yearning hearts the restoration of the Gospel of Christ. For in it are the same gifts, blessings, power and authority that were characteristic of it formerly. And when weighed in the rational and scriptural balance, none of the principles and doctrines which its youthful advocate proclaimed are lacking in any respect.

The Prophet Moses, styled "God's first pen," in answer to the question "How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken?" said, "When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him." Conversely, if a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord and the prophecy is verified, it is one of the most essential proofs of his being divinely inspired, if the prediction was beyond human ingenuity or foresight. Measuring Joseph Smith in the light of these words let us consider some of his propecies and see if he is found wanting. On the occasion of the angel Moroni appearing to the youthful prophet at the beginning of this "marvelous work and a wonder" he said, "Your name shall be known among the nations, for the work which the Lord will perform by your hands shall cause the righteous to rejoice and the wicked to rage; with the one it shall be had in honor, with the other in reproach." This declaration was uttered seven years previous to the organization of the Church and while the Prophet was still in his teens laboring in connection with his father on the farm, and scarcely known outside his family circle. An obscure, illiterate farmer's boy, with little or no financial prospects, becoming universally known throughtout the world, his memory cherished by the righteous and honest-hearted, such a height could not have been gained except through the divine blessing. Has this prediction been verified? Let the humble emissaries and Saints of God throughout the world answer. The lies of his enemies have attached a stigma to his name, while the disciples of Jesus have pronounced him to be an inspired Prophet of God.

And again, "I prophesied," said Joseph Smith, while he and his followers were living at Nauvoo, "that the Saints would continue to suffer much affliction and would be driven to the Rocky mountains" and "there become a mighty people." The fulfillment of these words is so well known as to require no comment. We can see them plainly verified in the lives of the mob-driven Saints from the time that they were ordered to vacate Nauvoo the beautiful, when the flames of their burning homes illumed their pathway into the trackless desert toward the setting sun. How they faced starvation and death and left the bones of hundreds to bleach upon the burning sands, and how the survivors, after their journey's consummation, broke their plowshares in the hard and sun-baked soil, in conquering the vast desert empire that lay before them, and directed the magic streams towards the thirsty and parched plains, so that verdant fields waved where only sagebrush had flourished, all this is now known to the world. In spite of these fatiguing hardships and privations we have indeed a mighty people established in the Rocky mountains.

Possibly the most striking prophecy of Joseph Smith was the prediction of the fate, sorrow and mourning of the proud Republic of the United States. His warning came nearly thirty years prior to the commencement of the

bloody Civil War. And his declaration concerning the cause and extent of it was pronounced with such exactness that it was impossible to be the result of mere human foresight. In fact, so adverse was popular opinion, that it was treated with ridicule. But not one jot or tittle of God's word uttered by His inspired Prophets will fall to the ground unfulfilled. To see how clear the prophetic words were, read section 87 of the Doctrine and Covenants.

The great and important revelation of the Book of Mormon, the sacred history of an ancient and renowned nation "speaking low and out of the dust" brings to light an invincible proof of the divine authority of its translator, and adds to the testimony of the inspired Scriptures and mission of Jesus Christ. You may have heard of the so-called Damascus blades, which can cut through almost every obstacle without dulling or breaking. It is said they were made of cloth and woven wire; which when rolled together, heated, welded, forged and tempered, made a sword whose edge nothing could resist. Thus the Bible and the Book of Mormon are interwoven, and these welded in the fire of divine inspiration until they come forth to us as the sword of Truth, the word of God. In the light of these testimonies and considering the great truths which the Prophet Joseph Smith has revealed to earth, we can exclaim with the poet, "That his was one of the few, the immortal names, that were not born to die."

RESUBMISSION TO ROME.

Not only in England but in America also there is a strong tendency in the Episcopal Church to adopt the ritual and spirit of Roman Catholicism. We hear nowadays of the burning of incense, the confession to priests, prayers to the Virgin Mary, prayers for the dead, in the church that has been calling the pope the anti-Christ for upwards of four hundred years. In America the fact that no church is established by the state gives greater liberty for such tendencies to find expression. The following paragraph from the pen of an Episcopal clergyman is, however, somewhat surprising in its frankness. It is taken from *The Lamp*, edited in the state of New York by Rev. Spencer Jones.

"Protestants who glory in their sectarian divisions, yes, and Anglicans who glory in their separation from the Apostolic See, glory in their shame! . . . Wherein lies the remedy save to acknowledge the error our fathers made four hundred years ago and by concerted action to take the necessary measures which will in due time heal our schisms and make us Catholics indeed by reconciling us to the Universal Father of Christendom and reuniting us with the Holy Roman Church, the Mother and Mistress of all churches, in which resides the seat of supreme authority, the center of Catholic unity, the chair of the Blessed Apostle Peter, to whom our Lord said: 'Thou art Peter, and on this rock will I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.' . . . The *Terminus ad Quem* of the Oxford Movement seems to us to be by logical and divine necessity the resubmission of the English church to the supreme authority of the Holy See, and God's way of accomplishing this is to multiply the Catholics within the Anglican fold until they fully 'possess the sanctuary' and are able to redeliver the keys of the kingdom wrested by force from him into the hands of St. Peter, to whom our Lord originally gave them."

In recognizing that the Protestant position is illogical Mr. Jones uses a false argument to draw his fellow-Episcopalians back to Rome. Truly the Lord Jesus gave the keys of the kingdom to Peter, but no promise whatever

was given that he should have a continuous line of successors on earth. Peter, the Apostle, and the Church of Jesus Christ, of which he was earthly leader, are as distinct from Leo, the pope, and the Roman Catholic church, as is truth from error. There is absolutely no connection between the two. The tendency among Protestants toward Romanism is not surprising. It will doubtless be a larger movement in the future than it is to-day. "The Mother and Mistress of all churches" will doubtless draw her children closer to her as the day of wrath approaches.

PRAISE FOR CANADIAN SAINTS.

THE following paragraph from the *Missionary Herald* is contained in an article on Presbyterian missionary work in Canada:

The Mormon problem is a serious one. There is a large and steadily increasing Mormon settlement in Southern Alberta. These Mormons are an energetic and enterprising class of people, and orderly and sober, as well as industrious. They have transformed the face of the country where they have settled, and, in the matter of farming, have successfully accomplished what was long believed to be impossible. Surely we are bound to at least give them the opportunity of hearing the full and simple Gospel; to point out the way of life to any of them who may lose confidence in their old views and be in danger of lapsing into practical infidelity, and to safeguard our own people who may come under the influence of Mormon teaching.

The Latter-day Saints have no objection to missionaries from other sects coming among them. If they are earnest and truthful they are made welcome. If any of the members of our Church are not satisfied with the whole Gospel they are welcome to go where they are better pleased. It not infrequently happens also that those who come to the Latter-day Saints to convert are themselves converted.

CURRENT EVENTS.

DESTRUCTIVE LAND SLIDE IN CANADA.

A STRANGE disaster occurred in Alberta, Canada, last week whereby ninety-five lives were lost. The new mining town of Frank near Lethbridge, not far from where the Rocky mountains cross the United States and Canada boundary line, was the scene of the trouble. The whole face of Turtle mountain broke loose and came crashing down upon the town. The mouths of the coal mines on the side of the mountain were covered over, but nearly all the miners burrowed their way through. Old Man's river, which runs down the valley, was dammed up. The noise was so terrible and the dust rose in such a cloud that the first reports stated a volcano had begun eruption. This place is not very far from the Canadian settlements of the Saints, Cardston, Stirling and Raymond.

PERSECUTING THE JEWS.

Russian intolerance of the Jews has lately manifested itself in anarchy at Kisheneff, a city in the southwestern corner of the empire. On April 20th the Christians engaged in a most violent riot, all classes taking part. They plundered the houses of the Jews, stealing all they could carry away and destroying the rest by fire, defiled the synagogues, and brutally murdered their victims, in some cases throwing them from the upper windows of their

houses. Some of the Jews saved themselves by placing Russian images before their doors and windows. The loss of property amounts to millions of roubles. Those Jews who escaped with their lives are taking refuge in other cities. Certainly the predictions of the ancient Prophets are being fulfilled upon the heads of scattered Israel. They will, however, come up through all tribulation and become a favored people again.

WAS JOSEPH SMITH A PROPHET OF THE LORD?

BY SAMUEL DITTY OF THE IRISH CONFERENCE.

Why is the world not all agreed,
That Joseph Smith of "Mormon" creed,
Was raised to gather Israel's seed,
And by the Lord appointed;
And that the records which he found,
So near the surface of the ground,
And like a sacred volume bound,
Were hid by God's anointed?

And if the Gospel be restored,
Why is the statement so ignored,
And ridicule upon him poured,
And false insinuation?
For if a man assert a claim,
And proves it true, then, they're to blame,
Who do injustice to his name
Without investigation.

He may have been a Prophet, too,
For all they know, or ever knew,
And if he was, then, it is true
That he had revelation.
If that be so, then tell me why
Men should abuse him and deny
That God has spoken from on high
To every tongue and nation.

He like a Prophet was abused,
His doctrines were by men refused,
And oft before the bar accused,—
But each time was acquitted;
And like the Christ whom men denied,
Though righteous yet was crucified,
So also he was slain, and died;
Yet this the world permitted.

Now did the Christian world not know
That Jesus said it would be so,
His Prophets all must undergo
The vilest persecution?
This being what the world has willed,
Herein the Scriptures were fulfilled,
When wicked men God's Prophet killed,
By cowardly execution.

What folly, then, to think by crime,
To end God's purpose and design,
For He has said in latter time,
He will His judgments pour;
'Till murderers of the Prophets all,
Trembling shall answer to His call,
And all who serve the "Beast" shall fall,
And fall to rise no more!

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